

CH-779

Circa 1850

Grosstown Tobacco Barn

Hugheville, vic.

Private

The Grosstown Tobacco Barn is one of a handful of mid 19th-century tobacco barns remaining in Charles County. The barn was constructed around 1850 and is located on a 111 acre tract on the south side of Grosstown Road.. The building has a circa 1875 full-width shed attached to the south eave elevation and a detached 20th century stripping shed is located near the northwest corner. Typical mid-19th century features found on this example include the narrow plank doorway centered on the gable ends and secured with hand-wrought hinges, original horizontal siding, and a wood louvered vent under the gable on the west elevation.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Fo

CH-779

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| historic | Grosstown Tobacco Barn |
| other | |

2. Location

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| street and number | 12667 Grosstown Road | <u> </u> | not for publication |
| city, town | Hughesville | <u>X</u> | vicinity |
| county | Charles | | |

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------|----|-----------|------------|
| name | James A. Jameson III | | | | |
| street and number | 12701 Grosstown Road | | | telephone | unknown |
| city, town | Hughesville | state | MD | zip code | 20637-2105 |

4. Location of Legal Description

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. | Charles County Courthouse | tax map and parcel: | 46 p. 33 |
| city, town | La Plata | liber | 2319 folio 168 |

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Category | Ownership | Current Function | Resource Count |
| ___ district | ___ public | <u>X</u> agriculture | Contributing Noncontributing |
| <u>X</u> building(s) | <u>X</u> private | ___ commerce/trade | 1 ___ buildings |
| ___ structure | ___ both | ___ defense | ___ ___ sites |
| ___ site | | ___ domestic | ___ ___ structures |
| ___ object | | ___ education | ___ ___ objects |
| | | ___ funerary | 1 ___ Total |
| | | ___ government | |
| | | ___ health care | |
| | | <u>X</u> industry | |
| | | ___ landscape | |
| | | ___ recreation/culture | |
| | | ___ religion | |
| | | ___ social | |
| | | ___ transportation | |
| | | ___ work in progress | |
| | | ___ unknown | |
| | | ___ vacant/not in use | |
| | | ___ other: | |
| | | | Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory |
| | | | 0 |

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-779

Condition

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |
-

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Grosstown Road Tobacco Barn was constructed during the mid 19th century and is located on a 111 acre tract on the south side of Grosstown Road. The rectangular barn has a metal gable roof and vertical board wood siding. The building has a circa 1875 full-width shed attached to the south eave elevation and a detached 20th century stripping shed is located near the northwest corner. The foundation consists of a combination of brick and stone piers and the frame is secured with irregular, hand headed cut nails. Like other examples the frame is constructed using large down braces to support exterior walls. Typical mid-19th century features found on this example include the narrow plank doorway centered on the gable ends and secured with hand-wrought hinges, original horizontal siding, and a wood louvered vent under the gable on the west elevation. A 1930 two story farmhouse and several outbuildings of the same era share the site, but were not accessible to be surveyed.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-779

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: | |

Specific dates circa 1850

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates circa 1850

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Grosstown Tobacco Barn is one of a handful of mid 19th-century tobacco barns remaining in Charles County. Tobacco has been the main cash crop in Charles County since the initial European settlement in the 17th century. The size and form of barns evolved over time reflecting changes in building technology as well as the tobacco economy and cultivation techniques. By the mid-19th century, barns developed a high rectangular form and frequently incorporated shed additions. Construction methods incorporated traditional building techniques such as pegged mortise and tenon joinery. Materials included hand hewn principal posts and pit sawn lesser posts and beams. Vertical board siding attached to nailers became the norm. These nailers also served as the end tier posts that supported round tier poles that in turn, supported the tobacco sticks during the curing process.

The process of air curing tobacco necessitated a means of controlling humidity and air flow into the evenly spaced tobacco stalks. During the mid-19th century this was accomplished simply through the opening and closing of numerous double doors during different weather conditions. Serving a dual purpose, these doors also allowed outside access to many different areas of the interior that might be inaccessible when the barn is partially full.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-779

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 111

Acreage of historical setting unknown

Quadrangle name La Plata

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 46, Parcel 33.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Hardy/ Historic Preservation Planner

organization Charles County Planning

date 7/31/2003

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town La Plata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

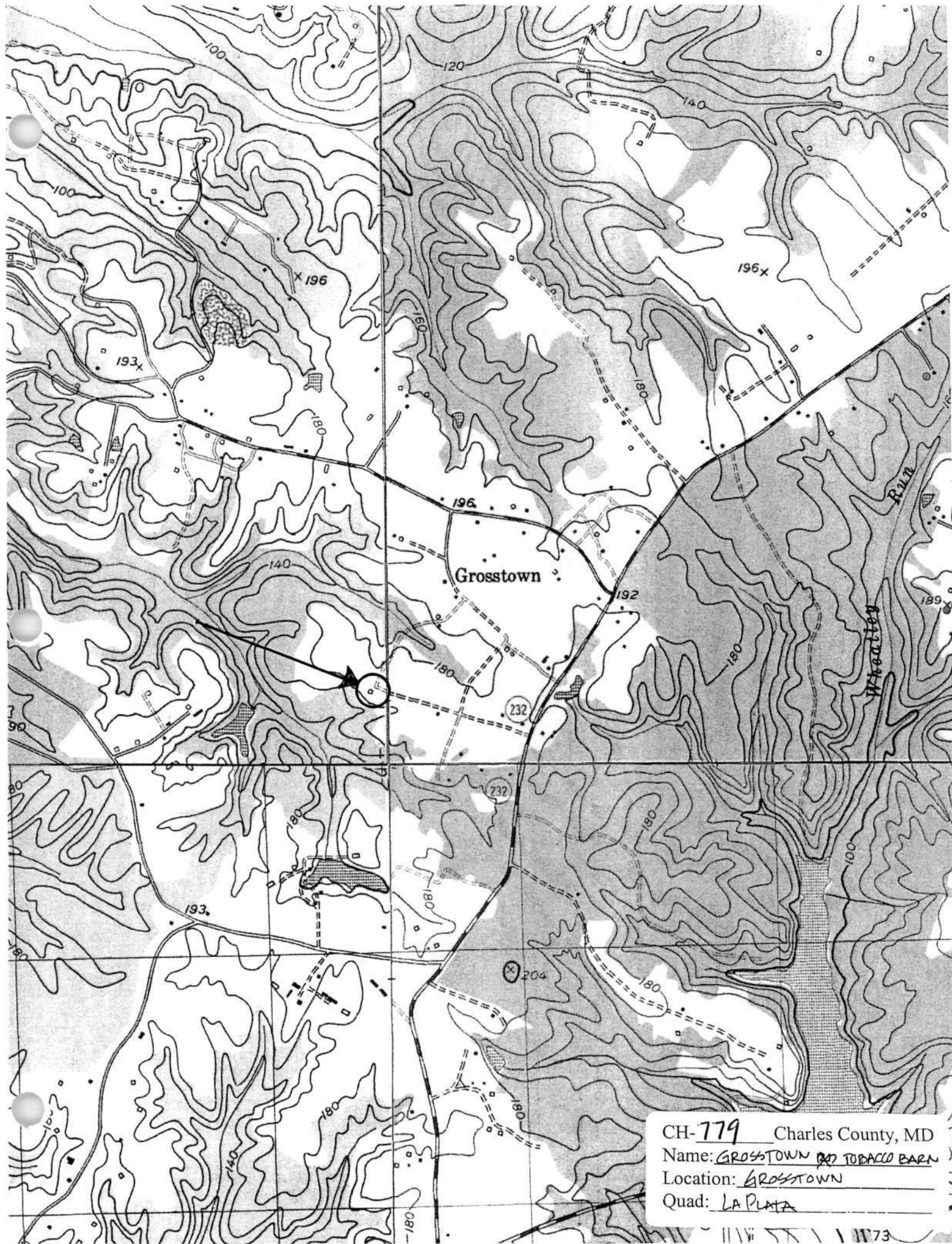
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600



CH- 779 Charles County, MD
Name: GRASSTOWN BARN
Location: GRASSTOWN
Quad: LAPATA

MAP 47



CH-779 Charles County, MD
Name: GROSSTOWN RD TOBACCO BARN
Location: GROSSTOWN
Quad: LA PLATA



CH-779

GROSSTOWN TOBACCO BARN
CHARLES CO., MD

2/2003

C. HARDY
MD

SHPO

LOOKING NW
10P4



CH-779

Grosstown TOBACCO BARN

CHARLES Co., MD

2/2003

C. HARDY

MD

SHPO

LOOKING E

20P4



CH 779
GROSSTOWN TOBACCO BARN
CHARLES CO, MD

2/2003

C. HARDY
MD

SHPO

HINGE N elw 30 F4



CH-779

GROSSTOWN TOBACCO BARN

CHARLES CO., MD

2/2003

C. HARDY

MD

SHPO

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